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Nearly 400 Homes on List of Poorly Numbered Properties

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

SANDOWN – Sandown is moving forward with an attempt to make its residents safer through the enforcement of a long dormant house numbering ordinance. The effort is being pushed by first responders who have struggled for years with finding homes that have hard to find numbers or none at all.

That poor visibility makes it sometimes difficult to find the correct home, a not uncommon issue.

Though police, firefighters and Emergency Medical Technicians who deal with house numbering issues every day pushed for the institution of the E-911 system during Town Meeting,

it failed to pass. E-911 would have placed reflective numbers on posts beside each driveway in town, and was heralded for its uniformity and ease of use. Those against the adoption complained about being forced to put the numbers on the property in front of their homes, saying it was a matter of personal responsibility, not government intervention. And they speculated that the number of poorly numbered homes was quite low. Those most vocally against the proposal asked that a house numbering ordinance adopted in 1987 be enforced instead.

Those who knew the ordinance questioned whether it was specific enough to handle the problem, but the effort to get compliance will

begin this summer.

That 1987 warrant article states "To see if the town will vote to adopt the following ordinance; Any dwelling not having the designated house number located at a non-obscured site visible from public right of way shall be subject to a \$25 fine payable to the town. Said monies shall be used to purchase and locate said number.

Late last month, chief of police Joe Gordon presented the selectmen with a list of properties identified by his officers as having numbering that did not abide by the ordinance.

The police identified 365 property owners with insufficient numbering practice. The number of homes is

continued on page 8

Present Police Station Gets Some Attention

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – With no new Hampstead Police Station on the immediate horizon, the security and repair issues at the present police station finally had to be addressed. The Department of Labor during its inspection of Town buildings added a few items to the plans already in the works for upgrading safety and making repairs to the aging police station, which started out as a fire station and was built in 1941 for \$2,500.

The police inherited the building in 1985. In 1986, after putting up walls and creating a dispatch room, officers room, interview room, chief/sergeant's office and a sally port, the Police Department occupied the

building.

The state for some time has been pushing the department to provide separate jail facilities for holding and booking juveniles as well as appropriate facilities for adult prisoners, instead of handcuffing them to a bar on the wall.

Chief Joe Beaudoin said the overall cost of the repairs and changes made at the station is \$15,000. The Board of Selectmen in December 2011 approved taking \$10,000 from the Government Building Maintenance and Repair line to fund a bid from A.J. Wood for roof repairs and window replacement to resolve a problem with leaks. Beaudoin said the balance he wedged out of his budget.

To address security and safety, a new wall was in-

stalled, creating a small entryway for the dispatch window. That window has been redesigned and special glass installed, providing a measure of safety for the dispatcher. The chief's office has been relocated to the former conference room behind the new wall and locked door, and his old office is now the conference room.

Officer Doug Mullin has handled the repairs, upgrades and improvements. He said it was as important to get the chief's office behind the locked door as it was to get protections in place for dispatch. The door from the entry is now locked, and anyone entering the rest of the building must be buzzed in.

Mullin has also upgrad-

continued on page 4



TUG-O-FUN Second graders from Kate Kretschmer's class face off against Jennifer Remillard's class in a friendly game of tug-of-war on Friday, June 8, as students got a chance to blow off some year-end steam during the school's Field Day. See additional photos on page 10.

Photo by Chris Paul

Contract Awarded for Solid Waste Clean-Up at LeClair's

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

CHESTER – Another step in the ongoing process to mitigate further pollution stemming from LeClair's Garage on Fremont Road was taken by the selectmen, with a bid for work to clean up the solid waste there awarded to Jay-Mor Wrecking Co. for \$28,800.

Jay-Mor, out of Pelham, gave the lowest bid for the

project, which asked contractors to remove above-ground debris. Bids ranged from \$28,800 to \$39,200, and selectmen said at their Thursday, June 7, meeting that some of the reasoning behind the decision came from recent direction by the state Department of Environmental Services (DES) that additional fencing ought to be erected on site to secure the area.

Chair Steph Landau

informed the board that new directives from the DES indicate the need for an 8-foot-high fence, as opposed to the 4-foot-high fence the board previously thought was sufficient.

Though the LeClairs have been barred from the property, that has not prevented them and their friends from further compromising the area in the past.

continued on page 4

Problems Pile Up at Sunset Lake Beach Runoff Project

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – The Beach Committee and two of the selectmen met at the Town Beach Monday evening

to look at what was supposed to be a dry swale with small rock as the top layer, created to channel run-off and drainage into Sunset Lake, thus protecting the beach from further

erosion. Instead, the swale is filled with brackish, smelly water and scum, and appears to be flowing back from the lake.

The committee wanted to look closely at the situation before meeting with the swale's designer, Town Engineer Nick Cricenti, and contractor, Chad Bennett of Bennett Construction.

Sunset Lake, according to Selectman Rick Hartung, is not above capacity, as

measured by the water level at the dam. However, it appears the swale is below the water level - thus the reverse flow.

Beach Committee chairwoman Kim Colbert said the committee needs to hear from the designer and the construction people as to their opinion about went wrong, how to fix it and who will pay for the repair. The Beach Committee meets on Monday, June 18,

at 6 p.m., and she said she hopes both Cricenti and Bennett would be present to provide information and a solution.

There is also a problem in phase 2 of the project. Ledge has been hit, and there was no provision in the bid contract for dealing with ledge. The low bidders for the contract did not include any provision for dealing with ledge. Of the five bids for phase 2, only

the three out-of-town bidders provided such a provision, but the two low bidders did not.

Bennett has informed Road Agent Jon Worthen, who is supervising the work, that it will cost another \$1,500 to deal with the ledge, another issue that must be worked out at Monday's meeting so the phase 2 project can be completed.



The rock swale constructed at the edge of the Town Beach is pictured, filled with water instead of being a dry swale conducting run-off and drainage through the rocks into Sunset Lake. Water appears to be backing into the swale from the lake rather than the other way around.
Photo by Penny Williams

Selectmen Approve Land Purchase Proposal

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved the Conservation Commission's proposed purchase of a 40-acre backland parcel off Main Street for \$85,000 (see related story page 6).

Conservation Chairman Tim Lovell said the next step would be to send the Purchase and Sales Agreement to the owner, Poy Lew. He also requested that Lew be asked to grant permission to allow Conservation Commission members to walk the parcel to make sure there are no objects on the site that would require removal.

The board asked Lovell what the Conservation Commission's view was on the 1-acre Kent Farm Road parcel Tel Noar has asked the board to look into selling

it as part of its negotiated gift in lieu of taxes agreement (see related story page 6). The Conservation Commission said it saw no conservation value to the land but would object to its sale, as the land could be used to better purpose as a bargaining chip for a land swap with Tel Noar.

The board had a lengthy discussion about whether the Conservation Commission's statement releases the land for sealed bid sale or auction by the Town or stops the town from moving in that direction. The selectmen decided to delay any decision for 90 days while Lovell and Selectman Chairman Sean Murphy work with Tel Noar to see if a land swap could be worked out. The 1-acre parcel is surrounded on three sides by Tel Noar property.

In other business at Monday night's meeting:

- Nikki Carr, Hampstead's Human Resources director, received approval for both her updated Welfare Human Services Guidelines and the allowable levels used.

- Full-time Firefighter Jonathan Houde's appointment was approved, and Selectman Rick Hartung announced that Fire Chief Michael Carrier's appointment for a new three-year contract term to be effective July 1, is under discussion and will be voted on at the next meeting. Hartung said the board is very pleased with Carrier but wanted the public to have the opportunity to weigh in on the discussion.

- The Town received two bids for the sprinkler system at the Fire Station, for which Carrier has a grant of \$53,200. Granite State from Moultonborough bid \$38,000 and Superior

Fire Protection from Hooksett bid \$45,400.

Carrier said he would go with the low bidder but would make sure there is sufficient money to do the hookup to the Hampstead Area Water Company, so final approval was put off until a later date.

- The Town received two bids for the new Fire Department tanker, one for \$324,686 from KME Fire Apparatus and one for \$339,758 from HME. Carrier said he would review the bids before making a decision. He has a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant of \$325,000, of which the Town is responsible for \$16,250 for the tanker.

- Paul Murphy, Neil Lynch and Michael Carrier were appointed to three-year terms on the newly created Town Facilities Committee.

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Pinkerton Headmaster to Retire in June 2014

KAITLYN G. WOODS
Tri-Town Times

Pinkerton Academy Headmaster Mary Anderson announced last week that she plans to retire after serving the semi-private high school for 39 years. Chester and Hampstead, as well as Derry, tuition their high school students to Pinkerton, and Auburn will begin doing so in 2013.

ton, and Auburn will begin doing so in 2013.

"The Pinkerton colors of red and white will always remind me of the traditions, values, and excellence that faculty and staff promote with our students," Anderson said. "They stand for the Astros, the Pinkerton campus and the great difference our dedicated educators and



Mary Anderson

staff make every day."

Anderson, who is contractually obligated to inform Pinkerton's Board of Trustees of her retirement two years in advance, did not wish to comment further on her recent announcement.

The board plans to begin the process of replacing Anderson soon, according

to Communications Director Chip Underhill.

Before she was appointed headmaster in 2003, Anderson served Pinkerton as a teacher, department head, finance administrator and assistant headmaster.

Anderson's retirement, effective June of 2014, will fall in the same year as the school's 200th celebration.

"Mary has guided Pinkerton extremely well and we wish her the very best," said Harry Burnham, chair of Pinkerton's Board of Trustees. "We assure the communities served by the Academy that the Trustees will work to select a new headmaster who can serve Pinkerton in its 200th year and beyond."

Pinkerton Launches Peer Mentoring for Freshmen

KAITLYN G. WOODS
Tri-Town Times

Pinkerton Academy will launch a new peer mentoring program for freshmen next year, geared to transitioning students from intimate learning environments in middle school to the much larger campus setting.

The program was created to offer students the chance to get to know members of their class and the upperclassmen, as well as to educate them on overcoming challenges they will face in high school, such as bullying and test taking anxiety.

Bullying is a real problem at Pinkerton, especially among the freshmen, according to peer mentors, who agreed education is the best remedy.

"I was actually a bully myself," said Kelsey Flannery, a freshman and peer mentor who said she never

realized how hurtful her actions were until she participated in a seminar on bullying at Pinkerton. "We can help by making kids aware of what bullying is."

Flannery said one of the most common reasons students gossip and say mean things about others is because they are trying to stand out or find their place. She thinks the peer mentoring program will cut down cases of bullying at Pinkerton by helping freshmen find their place at the school and educating them about the many different forms of bullying.

"Once you have hurt someone with bullying, there's nothing you can do after-the-fact to take it back," said Flannery, who hopes to make up for those she has hurt by preventing future bullying.

That's exactly why the program was created, according to teachers Roger

Konstant and Brewster Bartlett, who are serving as advisors to the program.

"The kids are the ones who have the answers for things," Bartlett said. "It's much more powerful to hear a student talk about bullying."

"Kids will respond to other kids," Konstant agreed.

Topics for the freshman seminars include School-Wide Expectations, Study Skills, Decision Making/Choices, Report Card Review, School Spirit and Clubs and Organizations. Next year's seminar groups will be smaller than this year's groups, thanks to the help of the new peer tutors.

This year's freshmen said their seminars suffered from the large size, which forced the teachers to spend more time managing all their students rather than having the in-depth discussion planned for next year.

Pinkerton's peer tutors helped create next year's seminar topics and wrote personal mission statements for the program, for which they will each earn a quarter academic credit.

In addition to reducing new students' anxiety over attending a new and much larger school, the peer mentoring program is also intended to help the freshmen succeed academically by learning from the wisdom of those who came before them.

Haley Wahl, a junior,

said she tried many different study strategies that failed before she found the method that worked best for her.

"I hope to help the freshmen avoid the mistakes I made," she said.

Other peer tutors said they joined to offer the freshmen someone they are comfortable approaching with questions.

"Sometimes the transition to high school is really hard," said Ben Thomas, a junior. "Some students are afraid to go to their teach-

ers. Or maybe you want to get involved in a school group, but you don't know how. Now they will have a peer they can go to, which makes things a little less frightening."

Mariah Larocque, a sophomore, said knowing upperclassmen will give the freshmen a confidence boost.

"They won't feel like they have to make themselves known - they will already be known," she said.

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Editorial

Graduation Reflections

For a brief period each spring, in homes across the land, worries about mortgages and jobs and everything else that defines daily life take a back seat to one of those “defining moments” – a child’s high school graduation.

That occasion tells parents they can’t ignore the passage of time. The trusting eyes of the tiny baby who looked up at them, the small hand they held on the first day of school, now belong to a young adult – likely taller than they are – who dons a cap and gown this month and heads for the stage to accept a diploma.

We rarely see ourselves getting older – our own high school graduation doesn’t seem that far away. But there’s no doubting the rushing by of time when you hear the name of your child announced as a member of the graduating class.

For parents, bittersweet is one of the words that mark the occasion. Others are pride and happiness, along with sadness that this stage of your child’s life – and your own – is over.

For the members of the Class of 2012, this moment marks the end of the last days of “childhood.” While

they may never have it so good again, the graduates are now officially on the path to building a life for themselves, whether the next step involves college, work, travel, or military service. They’re about to set out on their own, solely responsible for their actions and decisions and for what their life becomes.

It sounds appealing – and it certainly is – but it’s serious business, too. The life we make for ourselves is the only one we’ll have.

Just as it is for parents, graduation is a rite of passage for the graduates themselves – that’s what all the robes and decorations and parties signify. It isn’t called commencement by chance. It’s the beginning of the rest of your life. And not much is more exciting – or scary – than that.

Our advice? Consider what lies ahead as well as where you’ve been. Think of what has gone into all the years that brought you to this wonderful occasion. Be safe.

As you’re focusing on the future, remember those who helped you reach this landmark. And cherish each day as you live it.

Congratulations, and best wishes for an exciting future.

Electric Utility Trimming and Cutting Trees in Hampstead

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – In an effort to stem the rising number of elongated weather-related power outages, Public Service of New Hampshire (PSNH) is clearing trees from main electrical line feeds in a variety of places across the state.

Hampstead’s main electrical feeds run along Depot Road and Main Street, and these two byways show the extent to which PSNH is determined to lessen the impact of ice and wind.

Along Depot Road where the PSNH electrical lines run, trees have been

cut down that threaten the wires or whose branches would soon threaten to tear down power lines in the next major weather event to hit the area. Main Street is the scene of a similar clearing of trees, with still more marked with orange tape to signify they will soon be logged.

According to PSNH Southern Division Community Relations Director Elizabeth LaRocca, the tree cutting is intended to reduce the threat of power outages. The company is concentrating on clearing the main electrical feed lines, she said, noting that almost all the individual

property owners’ sign-off permission slips have been gathered.

When landowners want the wood left behind for them to cut up for firewood, the trees or large branches are left on their property. For those who don’t want the wood, PSNH will have logging trucks go through the area and remove the downed trees and branches that are too big to chip. Brush and smaller branches will be chipped.

“This is a standard operation entered into by PSNH to reduce future power outages,” LaRocca concluded.

Clean Up

continued from page 1

Selectmen are looking to have a signed contract before the end of the fiscal year on June 30 in order to encumber money in the current year’s budget for the work.

Though Landau suggested that it was reasonable to take the money from next year’s legal line, selectman Jack Cannon argued that the money was available this year from the highway department, and that it didn’t make sense to burden next year’s budget with the sum.

According to discussions last week, the selectmen will be directing building inspector/code enforcement officer Thom Roy to investigate the cost for fencing from local companies and Jay-Mor.

Selectman Mike Weider

said it made sense to ask Jay-Mor for a figure because they’d already be on site and may be able to do the extra work at a good rate.

It is expected that more than 300 feet of fencing will be erected, including on 209 feet of frontage.

“It’s not solving the problem,” Cannon conceded about the clean-up. “But it will prevent it from getting worse. We’re between a rock and a hard place here.”

The board has been struggling with how best to move forward with fixing the LeClair mess in light of potential liability the town could assume, should it take possession of the land.

Though the LeClair site has been a contamination presence for decades, this year’s efforts at removing its pollutants, and mitigating any further environmental harm or human health risk,

have been progressing more rapidly than before.

Owner Lorette LeClair and her son Wayne LeClair have been successfully sued by the town for their part in allowing the approximately two-acre property to become contaminated by a host of automobile-related fluids. Studies found that those contaminants had migrated and impacted the bedrock into surrounding drinking water wells.

One of those wells prompted a recent press for clean up, including a DES-led removal of all liquids and some soil on site earlier this year. Neighbors Jodi and Charlie Mitchell’s well was found to contain 1200 micrograms per liter of MtBE (Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether), a solid 1187 micrograms over the state groundwater quality standard.

Police

continued from page 1

the armory, and the interior of the station has been painted. Some improvements have been made as well to the second floor, where a former storage closet has been turned into a locker room.

Mullin said there is still more to be done but no money is available.

“We reused absolutely

everything we could to save money as we made the changes,” Mullin said.

Asked whether the Department of Labor inspection had precipitated the changes, Mullin said the plans for the safety upgrades and the roof and window repairs were already in the planning stage. The Department of Labor punch list was minor, other than requiring safety glass for the dispatch office.

Speculation in town is

that the Department of Labor inspection of all town buildings came about as a result of a Department of Labor employee going through Hampstead and discovering detail officers were not using the prescribed paddles. Beaudoin affirmed that he had been told by the Department of Labor to send his officers to “traffic class” but he didn’t know if that incident had any relation to the inspections that followed.



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Chester to Support Proposed State Scenic Byway

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

The stretch of Route 121 that travels through Chester, Sandown and Hampstead is on its way to being named a State Scenic Byway.

As a portion of the proposed Robert Frost/Old Stage Coach Scenic Byway, the three towns will join with Derry, Atkinson and Auburn in the byway's loop. Proponents of the designation point to the route's cultural, historic, natural, recreational and scenic qualities as justification for the distinction, which aims not only to promote those qualities but to highlight the towns and benefit their businesses.

Signs may be put up denoting the route and efforts may be made to make it more visitor friendly.

Selectmen from participating towns are being asked to give their recommendations to the project, as the Chester board of selectmen were on Thursday, June 7. The board met with Chief Executive Officer/executive director Dave

Preece of the Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission (SNHPC) and resident Jean Methot to learn about the process.

Atkinson had success last year in designating the portion of Route 121 in its town where the old stage coach route ran between Haverhill, Mass., and Concord, NH as a scenic byway. Both SNHPC and the Rockingham Planning Commission decided it made sense to extend that route.

As proposed, the Robert Frost/Old Stage Coach Scenic Byway will traverse 44 miles. The interpretative emphasis of the proposed Byway, the draft nomination reads, will be on the history of the communities through which the Byway passes, including the original stage coach service connecting Manchester and Concord and on to Haverhill and Boston, Mass., and the importance of the region in inspiring the work of the late American Poet Laureate Robert Frost.

Each participating town was represented by a few volunteers on a corridor

advisory committee. These groups put together a list of the sites that would make sense to point out along the route and justified its travel through town. In Chester, three National Historic Register listed places, Stevens Memorial Hall, the Chester Congregational Baptist Church and the Chester Village Cemetery, are recognized, along with the Chester Civil War Memorial, the Eliot Tavern, Town Pound, Brick Schoolhouse, the Daniel Chester French House, Isaac Blaisdell's "The Clockery," the Old Chester Turnpike and the Timothy Dexter House.

Methot said there were more sites that could be recognized but it was a good list to start with. Each site has its own stories and history, and he said that while some might not know the Timothy Dexter House, its namesake was quite a character.

"He was an eccentric," said Methot. "He was eventually run out of town."

Hampstead sites include the National Register-listed Meeting House, the Village Cemetery, the town hall,

the Congregational church, Camp Tel Noar, Sanborn Shores Campground and three historic taverns, among others.

Only a small portion of the road runs through Sandown, and it does not have any sites listed on the application.

Atkinson names Atkinson Academy (on the National Register), Atkinson Congregational Church, Atkinson Cemetery and the town pound, among others.

Auburn points to the Massabesic Lake Recreation Area, the Audubon Nature Center and Trail Network, Longmeadow Congregational Church and Griffin Library, among others.

In Derry, the focus is on Robert Frost, his former home, and the roads he walked and wrote from, but a host of other sites have also been recognized along the route by its own corridor advisory committee -

from the Adams Memorial Opera House (now the Derry Opera House) to the original village center to conservation lands and Pinkerton Academy.

Preece explained that the next step involves sending the draft nomination to the state for approval, which he expects to be completed in about six months, followed by the creation of a more in-depth outline of the route and a management plan.

Preece pointed to the General John Stark Scenic Byway that runs through Goffstown, New Boston and Dunbarton as a successful example. The designation has since led to celebrations of local culture, ranging from an open house at the Stark home to cemetery tours that brought to life the stories of past residents.

"It gives visitors an opportunity to get a glimpse of a New England way of

life they never do get to see," said Preece about the benefits of the program. "It gives a way to showcase the historic, natural, cultural and recreation resources each community provides."

The Chester selectmen were in favor of the nomination and will be sending out a letter of support soon.

The New Hampshire Scenic and Cultural Byways Program was established in 1992, the legislation adopting it reads, "... to provide the opportunity for residents and visitors to travel a system of byways which feature the scenic and cultural qualities of the state within the existing highway system, promote retention of rural and urban scenic byways, support the cultural, recreational and historic attributes along these byways, and expose the unique elements of the state's beauty, culture and history."

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Conservation Moves Forward on Land Purchase

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – Only one resident attended a public hearing held by the Hampstead Conservation Commission on a proposed purchase of approximately 40 acres of backland off Main Street.

Resident Harry Meldonian asked a few questions about the parcel, and they were quickly answered at the Tuesday, June 5, hearing.

The parcel is owned by Poy Lew, who does not live in Hampstead. Conservation Commission Chairman Tim Lovell negotiated with Lew

for several months and reached an agreed upon sale price of \$85,000 for the 40-plus acre backland parcel. Following the procedure set out in statute, the commission held the public hearing. The commission then brought the proposal to the Board of Selectmen at its June 11 meeting to obtain that board's approval of moving ahead with the purchase.

The next step is to get a legally drawn up purchase and sales agreement to send to Lew for his signature. Lovell said he hopes the process will move forward smoothly and in a timely fashion.

Lovell said the parcel has lots of hardwood trees, a brook and only a small corner of wetland. It is surrounded by land that is either already conservation land or is in current use. The only access is by a closed, town-owned logging road.

The members of the Conservation Commission present at the June 5 hearing were Lovell, David Treat, Paul Carideo, Bill Guest and Joe Milardo. They unanimously voted to have Lovell present the proposal to the selectmen. See related story page 2.

"This is a really good deal for conservation,"

Lovell said.

The commission also discussed a less than 1-acre parcel on Kent Farm Road that the selectmen are considering putting up for sale. The board asked the commission whether the land has any conservation value that should be considered, and conservation members said that after looking into the property, which is surrounded by land owned by Camp Tel Noar, determined there is no significant conservation value to the parcel.

However, the commission is not in favor of selling the parcel, particularly to ease budget issues, said Treat.

In the past, a trade was attempted between the Town and Tel Noar for this parcel, with the Conservation Commission seeking to swap it for land Tel Noar owns adjacent to Shop Pond. At that time, Tel Noar was not interested in discussing a land swap.

Treat said there might be a different outcome if another attempt at a swap was posed to Tel Noar. And Carideo said he is against selling any of the town's land.

The commission, while recognizing the Board of Selectmen doesn't need its permission to sell the parcel, decided to frame a

response stating the members' opinion about the proposed sale. Lovell presented the commission's views Monday night. See related story page 2.

The position statement reads: "We are against the Town selling their land assets to resolve budget problems and that this shouldn't be done. The Conservation Commission feels that the property does not have great conservation value but we feel the property is more valuable as a bargaining chip in getting a greater buffer around Shop Pond or the Moore property."

After More than Four Years, No Master Plan Update

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – Residents have been asking about when the updated Master Plan for the town will be available, and the answer is that after more than four years, it's still not ready.

The Town started after

Speak Up Hampstead in 2005/2006 to put together an updated Master Plan, but the work was done by an advisory committee that was not under the jurisdiction of the Planning Board. When the Planning Board did take action to update the then-10-year-old Master Plan, the work of the advisory committee was forwarded to the

Rockingham Planning Commission (RPC).

Glen Greenwood of the RPC met with the Planning Board over the ensuing years, and was able to use much of that information in working on the Master Plan. His work was paid for by a grant received by the Town.

That bill was paid in 2008.

But today, the Town claims it is still waiting for the Rockingham Planning Commission to provide the finished product. Greenwood has a different view on the situation.

At last week's Planning Board meeting, member and Selectman liaison Priscilla Lindquist told Planning Board Chairman Randy Clark that she keeps getting questions from residents about the Master Plan, and asked why it isn't available.

Clark said the first three chapters were finished and approved about two years ago and the final chapter, "Present and Future Land Use," is still not finished because of an issue with maps. He said RPC had not forwarded the maps to be added to that final chapter.

"We finally received a disk with the maps just a little while ago but the disk contained more maps than we wanted to include in that chapter," Clark said.

Greenwood looks at it differently. He said the maps Clark referred to had been delivered electronically and in hard copy to the Town twice in the last couple of years, and he had not received any information that they were unsatisfactory.

"The Master Plan sections the Town contracted with us to do are complete," he said when contacted by the Tri-Town Times last

week. "A Master Plan contains lots of information and data, and much of that is worked on continuously, and that portion I don't believe has been completed."

Clark said the maps in question have to be copied between disks and copies of the maps have to be made. Once this is completed, Planning Board secretary Sue Hastings will compile the four chapters into a binder and the new Town Master Plan will be available.

Clark assured Lindquist this would take place soon.

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Chester Board Looks into Contracting IT Service

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

CHESTER – Following the resignations of director of technology Bill Cavanaugh and technology specialist Shawn Power, the school board met with Keith Bramford of Daystar Computer Services to discuss having his company take over high level Information Technology (IT) needs for Chester Academy.

Cavanaugh will leave as of June 30 for a position with Homeland Security, and Power as of June 15 for a position in another district. The technology specialist position is currently

posted.

On a suggestion by superintendent Jim Gaylord, Bramford informed the board of the services Daystar could offer. Bramford was clear that while his company could provide an employee to meet the day-to-day needs of the school, it wasn't cost effective and suggested that the school hire someone for "break/fix" issues. If hired, Daystar would likely handle the network needs.

Bramford suspected the company would provide maintenance of current systems primarily through remote access, but would have someone on site for a

day every other week.

"We want a partnership," said Bramford, stating the company was not in the business to sell the school something it didn't need, but would like to work together to enhance the current systems and improve stability.

The board, some of whom have in-depth backgrounds in computers, asked Bramford many questions to get a clear idea of what he was offering, from whether the company had an Information Security Officer, to whether it was audited, to the advisability of outsourcing servers, to whether it could handle vir-

tualization of the school's systems.

While a rough estimate of \$20,000 to \$30,000 a year was given for Daystar's services, Bramford said a clearer picture of what needed to be done and how much it would cost could only come from an in-depth evaluation of the school's current infrastructure. The cost for that process was estimated to be \$75 an hour for eight to 16 hours.

That annual cost would not include additional projects to improve the system, but Bramford said his company would provide suggestions to be reviewed by the district's leadership.

In other business at the June 6 board meeting:

- Food services director Cheryl Musser asked for clarification on district policies relating to her work. She was concerned about reimbursement for driving the daily bank drop, whether she could limit the number (currently daily) of times she brings the bank drop and the protocol around generating purchase orders in the kitchen. Musser said there were gray areas in the policies, and directives that didn't work with the realities of food service.

- According to the financial manager's report, the school is looking at a

total surplus of \$277,178. The number includes a positive balance in regular education and special education of \$17,945 and \$259,233 respectively. The district is looking at a revenue shortfall of \$72,600 and will be placing a total of \$55,000 into the School Buildings Maintenance Fund and the Tuition Capital Reserve Fund as directed by voters, leaving a sum of \$149,578.

- The board approved the Five Year Technology Renewal and Replacement Plan, created by Cavanaugh and administration and which the board has been reviewing over the course of several meetings.

Chester Students Perform Well on National Tests

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

CHESTER – Chester Academy students again performed well on their spring tests. Each year, grade one through eight students take the Group Mathematics Assessment and Diagnostic Evaluation (GMADE) and the Group Reading Assessment and Diagnostic Evaluation (GRADE), and each year the students perform well in relation to their counterparts across the country.

According to Principal Leslie Leahy, the tests are a rigorous assessment of what the students learned over the course of the year and are used to help teachers work on strengths and weaknesses in the coming year.

GRADE evaluates students' comprehension and vocabulary skills, while GMADE tests concept and communication skills, operational and computational skills and process and application skills. Average students are expected to make a year's progress on the tests, and the students' average scores indicate that the students are performing well beyond that expectation.

According to Leahy, when student math scores were averaged for each grade level, they typically scored one to two grade lev-

els above their current station. Sixty out of the 78 eighth grade students tested were scoring at the 11th and 12th grade level.

In addition, she said, the scores all over the math

tests exceeded last year's results. While the expectation is that the average of all the scores for grades one through eight should have a minimum mean of 4.5, Chester's average was al-

most 7.0.

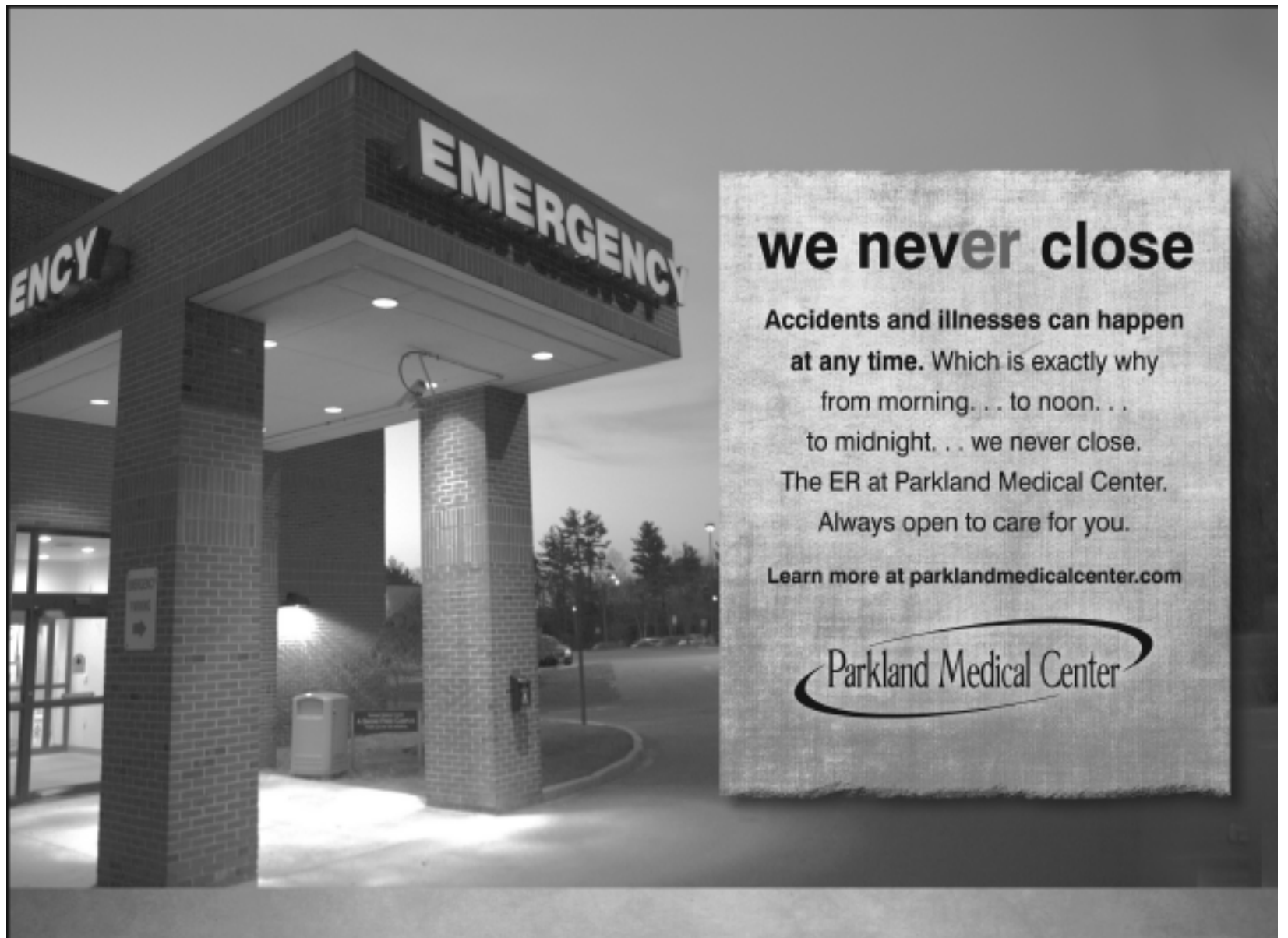
And the reading results were even better, said the principal. In those results, students were scoring two to three grades above their current grade level, with 62

of the 78 eighth graders scoring at the 11th and 12th grade level. The mean average was almost 8.0.

"Which is excellent," said Leahy.

Leahy said the results

stem from the collaboration between students and teachers throughout the year, including extra help before and after school for students struggling with parts of the curriculum.



Chester Academy Teachers Qualify for Merit Pay

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

CHESTER — Chester Academy teachers operating within the collective bargaining agreement between their union and the school district will be awarded performance incentive bonuses this year after more than fulfilling the goals set out in that contract.

The Chester Education Association (CEA) and school board created the unique, and some would say landmark, agreement in 2009. It incorporates a compensation plan that groups all teachers together to work toward common goals. Those goals are meant to help administration and the school board quantitatively assess how

well teachers are doing their job, a goal not without its difficulties.

There are six measures of that progress in the contract. A new contract with amended goals was approved by voters for the coming school year.

The first two goals, which deal with academic achievement, are worth 30 percent of the potential performance bonus, while four other goals related to professional performance are each worth 10 percent.

The first two goals are based on students' amalgamated standardized testing scores (on two different tests, the Group Reading Assessment and Diagnostic Evaluation (GRADE) and Group Mathematics Assessment and Diagnostic Evalu-

ation (GMADE)). It states that students in grades one through eight must achieve an average composite grade equivalency, as determined by the Director of Academic Programs, at a minimum of one grade above their expected grade level on the GRADE and GMADE.

Student results on those tests exceeded last year's results (see related story page 7). Results on the math test indicate that on average, students scored one to two grade levels higher than their grade level. In reading, it was two to three levels higher.

The contract stipulates that the composite grade for both tests be at least 6.4 (if every student performed at grade level, the composite score would be 4.5). Stu-

dents scored a composite of nearly 8.0 on the GRADE, and nearly 7.0 on the GMADE.

The next two goals seek to foster communication between teacher and student.

The third contract goal asks that at least 75 percent of teachers use the Homework Now website to keep in contact with kids and their parents; all year, at least 88 percent of teachers were doing so.

The fourth goal asks that teachers keep an up-to-date email log for communication with parents, and according to the school, 4,050 email exchanges were logged between October and June, along with 2,050 phone calls in that same time period.

The fifth goal deals with professional development and asks that on average, teachers spend 25 hours on professional development annually in New Hampshire. They earn hours by attending workshops and taking advanced educational courses. Teachers exceeded the contract goal by logging an average of 33.5 hours per teacher.

As a whole, the teachers exceeded the required hours by 386. They took advanced courses on topics related to School and the Law, Remediation for Learning Disabilities, a variety of technology courses and more specific content topics. They attended more than 150 workshops on a broad range of educational issues.

The final goal is based

on participation with the Student of the Month Program and the school's PAWS program, its Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program. More than 4,000 PAWS stickers were given out for good behavior and more than 300 students were given monthly awards over the course of the year for exhibiting good character and citizenship or for excelling in a particular area.

The school board unanimously chose to award the bonus, amounting to 2 percent of a teacher's base salary as a lump sum, one time payout.

"This is nice to see," said chair Royal Richardson. "With a lot of confidence, we can say that they're doing really well."

Homes

continued from page 1

closer to 380, as there are some in town with more than one property.

The houses identified are scattered across town, but some roads have several of them. The list has 11 homes on Country Acres Road, eight on Cross, eight

on Dee Dee, 12 on Eastfield Loop, nine on Elizabeth, five on Hawkewood, 13 on Holts Point, 16 on Lakeside Drive, eight on Little Mill, 15 on Main Street, 11 on Odell, eight on Showell Pond Road - and the list goes on.

Fire chief Bill Tapley said public awareness of the issue has increased in recent

months and because of that, he's been seeing a few more residents outfit their homes with easily recognizable numbers. It's a good thing, he said, because the aim was never to step on anybody's personal property rights but to make response times quicker.

It's not a good thing to be walking into the wrong house because you can't

find the right one, he said. Every minute counts during an emergency.

Tapley joked that not only was it good that houses were becoming more easily identified, but because the E-911 article failed, he wouldn't have to volunteer all of his free time to put up the signs.

The department regularly runs trainings that see

members heading out to mock calls in less visited parts of town. The drills not only give them practice preparing and driving out to a call, but gives them familiarity with addresses.

The selectmen have not yet determined a protocol for alerting residents to non-compliance, but discussions have centered around sending out a letter informing homeowners of the issue and giving them time to comply.

Code enforcement offi-

cer Ken Sherwood will be heading up the enforcement part. He has noted some concern about completing the project because of complaints from some residents who have no desire to number their house at all.

"Anyone who needs to find me knows where I am," said Sherwood, explaining some of the sentiment he's heard.

A list of non-compliant homes is available in the selectmen's office at Town Hall.

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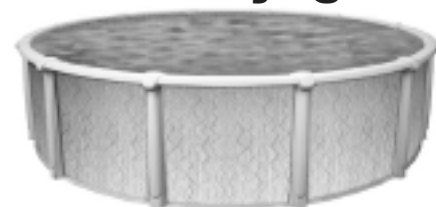
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Hampstead School Cable Channel 6 is Up and Running

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – It has been a long time coming, but the efforts of Hampstead School District Technology Director and Hampstead Cable TV Advisory Board member Lori Collins and Hampstead Middle School

Information Technology teacher David Remillard have finally paid off. The Town's Cable Board has helped with funding, technology and equipment, all with the purpose of making more cable programming available to the townspeople.

Collins, assisted by Hampstead's Cable 17 Inter-

im Manager Bianca Nicolesi, has put together a variety of programming for Channel 6.

The schedule for the programs can be found on the Hampstead Middle School website at: www.hampstead.k12.nh.us.

Much of the content on Channel 6 is in-school gen-

erated, such as "With You Japan," which recounts the school's help for tsunami-impacted Japanese children; "LipSync," a popular Middle School event; Hampstead School Board meetings; Red Ribbon Week; the 2012 Spring Chorus Concert; the Hampstead Central School Multicultural Show,

HMS Spring Band Concert, Memorial Day Ceremony, and Hampstead's "Let's Move."

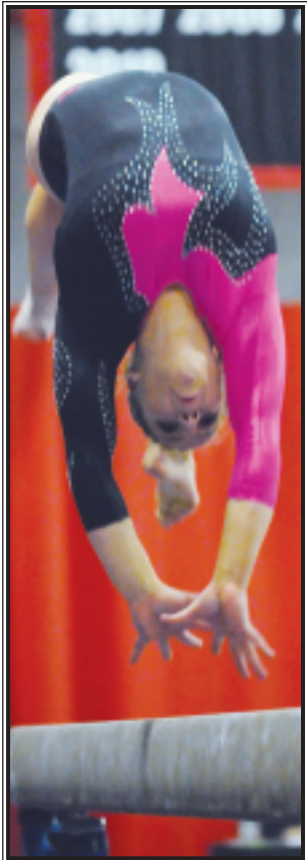
The programs indicate the sophistication of the young people who work with Remillard and Collins to produce these programs. As time goes on and the school cable studio ex-

pands, more programming is expected to become available.

Collins has also included programs that are educational and fun for residents and their families to watch. Shows are offered seven days a week, with the times differing by the day.

Pinkerton Gymnastics Star Excels at National Event

CHRIS PANTAZIS
Tri-Town Times



CHESTER – With her collegiate athletic career looming straight ahead, graduating Pinkerton Academy senior Courtney Thompson finished up her high school gymnastics activity with a flourish recently.

Thompson, who will be competing in the sport at the University of New Hampshire later this year, ended her high school gymnastics involvement by placing among the top senior high school competitors at the National High School Senior Showcase in Fort Myers Beach, Fla., in late May.

At the competition, the single largest high school-

level meet for gymnasts in the nation, the Chester resident went up against more than 140 high school seniors from across the country. And saying she performed well would be a significant understatement.

Thompson, who played a major role in the Pinkerton gymnastics squad's state championship victories each of the last two years despite battles with significant injuries, put forth noteworthy performances in the preliminary and final competitive rounds at the Florida event.

In the preliminary round, the local woman placed first on balance beam with a score of 9.55, fourth in the all-around competition with a score of 37.25, 10th on the uneven bars

with a tally of 9.2, 14th in the floor exercise with a 9.35, and 16th on vault with a 9.15.

Then in the event's championship round, Thompson placed fifth on

beam (9.25), seventh on bars (9.2), and 11th on floor (9.35).

"This was a wonderful finale to a very successful high school career," said her proud mom, Nora Thomp-

son, who started Courtney in gymnastics at the age of 1.

The PA senior was accompanied to the nationals by her Pinkerton coach, Chelsie Veilleux.

University of New Hampshire-bound gymnast Courtney Thompson from Pinkerton closed out her superb high school career recently with a fine showing at a national event in Florida.

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Fields of Farm Fun



Hampstead Central School students took to the fields last Friday for the annual celebration of the end of the school year. This year's Field Day theme was "Fun on the Farm," with games set up with a farm theme. Above, Quinn Calder rides a stick horse during the relay races; above center right and clockwise, Olivia Farrington and her classmates pet a llama supplied by Traveling Barnyard of Farmington; Emma Gordon pets baby goats; Nicholas Tagalakis hops on one foot while clutching a rubber chicken during a relay race; and second graders in Jennifer Remillard's class face off against students in Kate Kretschmer's class in a tug of war. *Photos by Chris Paul*



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The Camp Lincoln Experience, Rain or Shine

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – YMCA Camp Lincoln in Kingston has been chosen by Hampstead Middle School as an outdoor learning experience for seventh graders for a couple of days in the spring and fall. The Camp Lincoln program is tailored to combine the goals of Project

Respect and the experiences from outdoor activities, and to meet designated curriculum areas.

One component is learning the value of teamwork, understanding the importance of community and building trust and respect. The challenge courses – ropes and climbing wall – work on developing these skills, as do waterfront

activities. The primary focus of Camp Lincoln is teaching respect, responsibility, honesty and caring.

Camp Lincoln takes place rain or shine, and this year it was mostly rain. The weather adds an edge to the activities, sometimes making things more interesting, sometimes more difficult.

Seventh grade teachers came loaded with extra

clothing, but this year the request to bring a change of clothing went unnoticed by more than a few youngsters, who after a couple hours in the rain were soaked to the skin, especially the only group that got to kayak.

Some of the kids enjoyed the rain. Cobi Moore managed to reach the highest point on the giant's ladder despite the conditions, and this made up for the dampness for him.

"The rain affected the high ropes course because the parts you had to climb on were slippery," he said.

Cambria Delaney added, "Even though it was wet and cold, we still had fun."

Seventh grade teacher Kathe Cussen noted that kayaking was a challenge due to the wind, rain and cold temperatures. The second day was a bit more bearable but everyone was chilled by the end of the

time at camp.

Nevertheless, Tyler Clark said, "Camp Lincoln is a magical place because you experience things in a fun way outside."

And Justin Paleno added, "The weather was brutal, but we still cooperated as a team."

"The students worked well and supported each other on two very chilly days," Cussen concluded.



Cobi Moore, along with the rest of Hampstead Middle School seventh graders, braved the elements at Camp Lincoln recently. While the rain that fell both days had an impact on the activities, shortening some and eliminating others because of safety concerns, the programs went off much as they would have, had it been a sunny day.

Photo by Penny Williams

Candidate Filing Closes Friday

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

Though the presidential election of 2012 has taken the spotlight this year, there are some important positions in the state legislature that will be up for grabs this fall. Four state House seats and one Senate seat are up for election in the districts that encompass Chester and Sandown.

For senate, Democrat Carol Croteau of Kingston and Republican Russell Prescott of Kingston have filed for election.

Just two candidates have announced their intent to

seek a spot in the House. Democrat Charlotte Lister of Chester is running, as is Republican Gene Charron, also of Chester.

In the House of Representatives, Chester, Sandown and Auburn comprise Rockingham County District 4. Up until this year, both were part of Rockingham District 7, which is currently represented by Republicans Gene Charron and Joseph Hagan, both of Chester, Jim Devine of Sandown and Betsy Sanders of Danville.

For the Senate, Sandown and Chester are in Senate District 23 along with

Brentwood, Danville, East Kingston, Epping, Exeter, Fremont and Kingston.

Previously both Chester and Sandown were part of State Senate District 17, which also included Allentown, Brentwood, Chichester, Danville, Deerfield, Epsom, Fremont, Northwood, Pittsfield and Raymond. Republican Senator Jack Barnes of Raymond currently represents Senate District 17.

The State Primary Election is Sept. 11, and the General Election is Nov. 6.

The filing period for both elections closes Friday, June 15.

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Recognition Offered for Hampstead Youth Lacrosse

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – The Hampstead Youth Lacrosse Program has thrived under the leadership of the Auger brothers, Matt, Marty and Marc. A Hampstead resident tipped her hat to their efforts to make this youth sports program the success it is for both girls and boys.

The training and experi-

ence the participants receive bodes well for those who choose to go on with the sport at Pinkerton Academy during their high school years. And Hampstead resident Jamie Sturgess said that over the years, many of the young people involved in the Youth Lacrosse program do particularly well academically.

Sturgess said a recent example of what the program

accomplishes reflects the success and the dedication of Hampstead Youth Lacrosse. Just recently, the group organized a private screening of the new movie "Crooked Arrows," a limited release movie with only select cities showing it before a nationwide release on June 1. It was shown at the AMC Theatres at The Loop in Methuen, Mass., in mid-May and Hampstead Youth Lacrosse

(HYL) secured its own theater at The Loop and sold 225 tickets to its players and their families.

"This is an exciting and rare event that speaks to the strength and participation of our thriving town sport," Sturgess said. "Lacrosse is growing in popularity nationwide, and the fact that a small town like Hampstead can build such a strong program and following with this

much player and family involvement is a testament to the commitment and leadership of an extraordinary Hampstead family, the Augers, and a great sport.

"The success of this program is evident by the participation in these non-game events such as the movie night and a recent Cannons Lacrosse game where more than 150 HYL players and families attend-

ed as a group, but it is also clear by the success of the players and teams on the field, with many of the kids going on to play at Pinkerton and beyond," she said.

"The Auger brothers are all great guys who do what they do with a low profile and without any fanfare," she said. "I think it is important to recognize all of their dedication and commitment to our tiny town."

Hampstead Bell On Target to Ring in Independence Day

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – It appears that this will be the year the Paul Revere Jr. bell in Hampstead's Old Meeting House steeple will ring out at midnight on July 4 to usher in Independence Day.

Maurice Randall, Hamp-

stead historian, said the bell, which weighs 1,212 pounds, was tolled for almost 200 years to signal fires, emergencies, funerals, and, before 1930, to mark the hours of 7 a.m., noon and 5 p.m. It was also a tradition for the bell to be rung from its 198-foot-high perch in the Old Meeting

House steeple at 12:01 a.m. July 4 to usher in the Fourth of July and celebrate America's independence.

The ringing of the bell ushering in the Fourth is remembered by longtime residents. But the uncertain condition of the bell's support system silenced it for years.

In 2005, after repairs and adjustments were made to shore up the bell's yoke, the tradition was resumed in modified form by swinging the clapper. With that method, the bell does not move but is rung by swinging the clapper.

Since then, the Historic District Heritage Commission and the Hampstead Historical Society have worked to make repairs and replace the yoke so that the bell might ring out again. Finally, after years of searching, a big enough piece of white oak was located and shipped to Hampstead, and artisan Dave Dupouy of Sandown has taken apart the yoke and wheel, made a replica of the wheel, and is almost finished with crafting the new yoke. Commission member Chip Hastings took the 200-year-old hardware off the old yoke and re-blacksmithed the pieces

that were salvageable and hand made new pieces where necessary. These are now being attached to the new yoke.

Commission member Rob Morris said last week that the work on the bell and yoke is on target for the bell to ring in the Fourth. The bell has been rotated 90 degrees to move the flattened area where the clapper struck the bell for the first 200-plus years, so the clapper will ring true without further flattening of the bell's surface.

The yoke will be lifted into the belfry thanks to David Fram's donating the services of one of his S&F Cranes, and then Dupouy, Hastings, and Morris will

put the Paul Revere Jr. bell back together on its new yoke. The clapper may have to be modified but Morris hopes that isn't the case.

The years of effort to get the bell fixed and to find the funding to accomplish it has paid off with the support of Pentucket Bank.

In other business at the commission's June 6 meeting, the members acknowledged the columns on the front porch of the Historical Museum are in bad shape, and will be lost if repairs aren't made soon.

The commission members agreed that the primary focus right now is to get the bell fixed so it can ring in the Fourth, and then its attention will switch to the

Candidate Filings Close Friday for State Offices

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – The filing period for state and county offices closes Friday, June 15, and as of press time Tuesday, June 12, the following persons have filed for Rockingham House District 13, which has four seats and covers Hampstead and Kingston: Kenneth Weyler and David Welch,

both of Kingston, and John Sedensky, Regina Birdsell and Jeff Oigny, all of Hampstead. All are Republicans.

Hampstead also will have a seat in Rockingham Floating District 34, a one-seat district that covers Hampstead, Kingston, Plaistow and Atkinson.

Incumbent Republican state senator Jim Rausch of Derry of Rockingham Senate District 19 has filed for

reelection.

No Democrats have filed.

The filings will go forward with the proviso that because the Representative redistricting plan has been challenged in court, it would be subject to future decisions of the court.

The State Primary Election is Sept. 11, with the General Election on Nov. 6.

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Fred Afshar of KW Realty Bedford is pleased to announce Melody has joined the team as his Executive Assistant.

Melody has worked in the banking and executive search industries and brings to our team valuable organizational and customer service expertise along with a caring heart and empathic listening skills.

Melody resides in East Derry, NH with her husband, Dr. John Talley.

With Melody joining our team that currently consists of a home decorating consultant, a social media consultant and two web-based marketing companies, we can help our clients make sound, informed and timely decisions in all their Real Estate needs.

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SAU 55 Sets Interim Superintendent Stipend

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

The compensation for the Interim Superintendent of the Timberlane/Hampstead School Districts, current Assistant Superintendent Winfried Feneberg, was the topic of an extended non-public session discussion Monday evening, but the School Administrative Unit (SAU) 55 Board voted unanimously to approve paying him a stipend of \$60 per day and allowing him a total of \$10,000 to use for others as a per diem stipend at his discretion during the four-month interim period.

The Timberlane district covers Sandown, Atkinson, Plaistow and Danville.

Donna Green of San-

down, a member of the Timberlane Budget Committee, asked to have the compensation discussion in open session, but School Board Chairman Michael Mascola recommended for both safety and respect reasons to hold the discussion in non-public session.

"I do not believe the interim Superintendent's compensation should be discussed in a non-public session," Green said. "This is of interest to the entire community, as it may set an expectation for the incoming Superintendent's compensation package to some extent. There is no issue of reputation whatsoever involved so 'c' (of the statute for non-public session) is not called for...I would like to remind the board that transparency

is a primary virtue in democratic organizations."

Mascola disagreed and said the results of the discussion would be made public but the discussion should be in non-public session. Only board members Roger Barczak and Jim Stewart agreed with Green and Nancy Steenson abstained, and the discussion moved to non-public.

In other business at Monday night's meeting:

- Eight hundred brochures have been sent out, ads have been placed in a variety of locations, the seven focus groups have been completed, and a report on what they produced in terms of developing a selection profile for the superintendent's position will be presented to the

board at its next meeting. In addition, 800 emails will be going out to eligible in-state administrators.

- The Screening Committee debated how candidates would be selected from the pool for the various seats. Only four SAU 55 board members have volunteered for the five seats in that category; one SAU staff member has applied for the one seat at that category; four Hampstead parents have applied for the one available slot, and 17 Timberlane parents have applied for their one seat. One Timberlane and two Hampstead administrators have applied for the four administrator seats, and five teachers from Timberlane but no teachers from Hampstead have applied for the

two teacher slots. Deadline is June 13.

The discussion ensued over how to select the single parent for the Timberlane seat from the pool of 17. Committee member Nancy Steenson said she was offended that the executive authority of the Screening Committee would be negated by tossing the applications in a hat and drawing the name of the winning candidate. The decision was made to have NESDEC (New England School Development Council) consultant Ken DeBenedictis meet in person or by confer-

ence call with the committee Thursday, June 14, at 6 p.m. to go over the options. Mascola said the committee should arrive at a decision on how to proceed and come back to the board with that decision.

- Mascola gave Green the opportunity to comment on the Superintendent's contract before the board discussed it but she declined, saying she wanted to comment after the board discussion. Mascola told her the option was to comment before or not at all, and she declined, saying she found that ruling undemocratic.

Students Honored for Junior Duck Stamp

Several members of Hampstead Academy's Grade 7 class received special recognition in the 2012 New

Hampshire Federal Junior Duck Stamp competition.

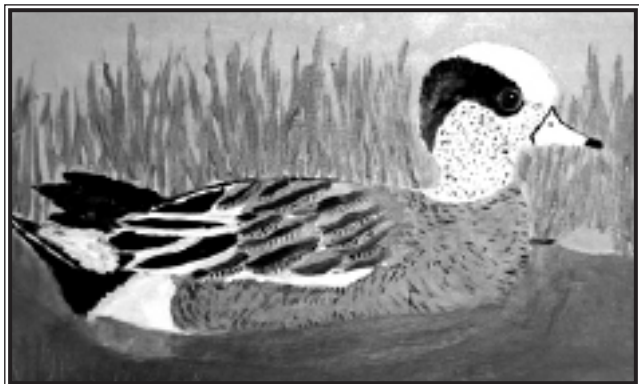
Out of all the grade 7-9 participants from New

Hampshire, Hampstead Academy's Rachel Fonseca received a first-place award, Isabel Hill received third place, and Jack Lawlor, Tala Osborne, Caitlyn Ferreira and Nathan Stallings received honorable mentions.

This statewide competition is part of a nationwide contest providing students with the opportunity to show off their artistic skill. The students compete by creating artwork for a duck stamp in their choice of medium, along with a conservation message. The

hope of the competition is that by offering students the opportunity to participate in the process of artistic creation, students will gain an appreciation for the importance of conserving a habitat.

The students' artwork and awards were on display at New Hampshire Fish and Game headquarters in Concord, and were delivered to Hampstead Academy in time for the school's annual Student Art Show and Multicultural Festival on June 1.



Pictured is the winning Junior Duck Stamp.



FUN IN THE SUN The sun shone brightly on the 2012 Hampstead Congregational Church Strawberry Festival, as people from Hampstead and the surrounding towns stopped by to visit the vendors displaying their work and enjoy a hot dog and the strawberry short cake that is the heart of the annual festival. Four members of the Merrimack Valley Townsman chorus couldn't resist an impromptu song before the rest of the chorus arrived for their noontime entertainment spot.

Photo by Penny Williams

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TRI-TOWN HAPPENINGS

CHESTER

Farmers' Market, Car Night

Chester Congregational & Baptist Church, 4 Chester St., will host a Farmers' Market on the following Thursdays - June 21, July 19 and Aug. 16 - from 5 to 8 p.m. (rain dates are June 28, July 26 and Aug. 23). The dates coincide with Chester's Cruisin' Car Night, which takes place directly across the street from the church and offers classic cars, food, ice cream, raffles and music. For more information, call the church office at 887-4799 or email chesterchurchoffice@gsinet.net.

Friends of Library

The Friends of the Library meet Tuesday, June 19, at 7 p.m. in the Chester Public Library Meeting Room, 3 Chester St. The Friends welcomes new members to help with fundraising to benefit the Library by purchasing books, videos, and the new audio book/video drop.

Pokemon Party

The Chester Public Library, 3 Chester St., hosts a free Pokémon Party on Thursday, June 21, from 2 to 3 p.m., with trivia and a chance to trade and duel with Pokémon fans. For more information, call 887-3404.

Storytimes

The Chester Public Library, 3 Chester St., offers free Storytimes with stories and crafts every Tuesday at 11:15 a.m. with Mrs. Emily. For more information, call 887-3404.

Summer Reading

The Chester Public Library Summer Reading Program starts Monday, June 18, at 3 p.m. Sign up at the Library, 3 Chester St., for the Summer Reading Programs. All ages are invited to participate. Earn raffle tickets by reading and enter tickets into a weekly raffle. Sign-ups continue through July. The program ends Thursday, Aug. 16, with a Wrap-Up Party from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. For more information, call 887-3404.

Preschool Lottery

The Chester School District offers a multi-aged preschool program for the 2012-2013 school year, with programming to typically developing students at a tuition rate. The program begins Sept. 4 and ends on the last day of school, from 12:30 to 3 p.m. Students who are 3 or 4 years of age by Sept. 30, 2012 are eligible. For typically developing students, two options are offered - Tuesdays through Thursdays for \$2,100, and Tuesdays through Fridays for \$2,800. The district has a lottery for the eligible spots and expects to have four slots for 3-year-olds and four for 4-year-olds. To be part of the lottery, contact the school at 887-3621, ext. 146 with name, child's name and date of birth, and preference for three or four days. Lottery deadline is June 29.

Co-ed Volleyball

Chester Recreation is offering free adult co-ed pickup volleyball on Wednesdays at 8 p.m. at the Chester Multi-purpose room. Call the Recreation Department for more information at 887-5773 or email: sharon@chesternhrec.org

Scarecrow Pick Up

The Scarecrows of Chester have arrived at the Historical Society Museum. They have been cut out by Sylvia Anderson; painted by Jackie Brown, Judy Pepper and Alexandra Hadik; sewn and ironed by Diane Methot; turned inside out by Jean Methot and have had their bodies made by Don Brown. Pick up starts when the museum is open on the second Saturday of June, July and August from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. September will be the month to construct the characters to be on display by Oct. 1. If the pickup time is not convenient, call Jackie Brown at 887-3842 to arrange a time or to order for 2013. This is a fund raiser for the Chester Historical Society.

Vacation Bible School

Chester Congregational & Baptist Church invites chil-

dren to attend its Vacation Bible School (VBS) program this summer, titled "Sky: Everything is Possible with God!" It will be held from 9 a.m. to noon July 16 through 20 at the church, 4 Chester St., and is open to ages preschool through entering sixth grade. Indoor and outdoor activities include games, snack, crafts, music and singing, and Bible stories. The program is free, but registration is required. A closing celebration is set for Friday, July 20, at 11:30 a.m., with lunch provided. For more information, call the church office at 887-4799 or email chesterchurchoffice@gsinet.net.

Democrats

The Chester Democratic Committee will meet June 20 at 6 p.m. at 19 Deep Hole Road in Chester.

HAMPSTEAD

Trash Regulations

The Recycling and Solid Waste Committee holds an informational meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 21, at Town Hall to answer questions from the public and to provide information on new curbside trash pick-up regulations that take effect July 1.

Summer Reading Sign-Up

Kids can sign-up for the Summer Reading Program at the Hampstead Public Library any time after June 19 at 1 p.m. They will be able to choose teams, and begin tracking their reading time. This summer, the theme is "Dream Big - Read!" and events will include a magician, stargazing, creatures of the night, and musical performances. Prizes will be offered.

Genius Kits

The Hampstead Public Library tradition of 'Genius Kits' is back. Kids entering grades Kindergarten and up in the fall are welcome to pick up a kit starting Wednesday, June 20, at 1 p.m. Using only items in the bag, with glue or tape, participants can make a creation that shows the spirit of the summer reading theme, "Dream Big - Read!"



TITLES TIMES TWO The Hampstead Middle School baseball squad completed its second consecutive undefeated season Friday, June 1, beating its opponent from Litchfield by a 4-2 score in the championship game. Veteran coach Ray Flaherty came out of retirement to run the Hawks' squad prior to the 2011 season, and the local bunch has yet to lose under his leadership. *Courtesy photo*

Everyone who brings their creation to the library will be entered to win a prize. The number of Genius Kits is limited.

Tropical Day

The first family event of the Hampstead Public Library's Summer Reading Program is "Dreaming of a Tropical Paradise" on Thursday, June 21, from 2 to 4 p.m., with participants learning to hula dance with the Ohana Hula School, making a shell necklace, and playing beach volleyball. Those attending should be prepared to get wet.

Middle School Book Group

The Hampstead Public Library's summer edition of the Middle School Book Group, "Pizza & Pages," will have its first meeting on Thursday, June 21, at 6:30 p.m. All students who will be attending the Middle School in the fall are welcome to participate. Kids will be able to choose the books they want to read. Sign up at the library's front desk, or email pfalconer@hampstead.lib.nh.us.

Computer Tutor

The Hampstead Public Library is looking for a high school student with a background in computers and technology who would like to earn community service hours by helping adults

with computer-related issues. The position of computer tutor is non-paid. For more information, contact library director Debra Hiatt at 329-6411.

Art Exhibit

The June art display in the Hampstead Public Library's second floor meeting room is "Ancient Visions, New Canvases," oil paintings by George Chen.

Thrift Shop

The Hollyhock Thrift Shop's half-price sale of spring clothing is June 19, 23, 26 and 30. The shop, located at the Hampstead Public Library, will then be closed for restocking until Tuesday, July 10. The Hollyhock Thrift Shop has been the primary fund raising vehicle for the Friends of the Library since its inception. The money raised provides items for the library. Many of the computers, CDs, DVDs, museum passes and the automated electronic defibrillator have been funded by the Friends of the Library.

Book Discussions

The Hampstead Public Library's Nonfiction Book Group will discuss "The Floor of Heaven: a True Tale of the Last Frontier and the Yukon Gold Rush" by Howard Blum on Monday, July 16, at 7 p.m. The Library's Third Thursday

Book Group will discuss "The Man Who Loved Books Too Much: the True Story of a Thief, a Detective, and a World of Literary Obsession" by Allison Hoover Bartlett at 1 p.m. July 19. Copies of the books are available at the library's front desk, and newcomers are always welcome.

Library Movie

On Wednesday, June 27, at 7 p.m., the Hampstead Public Library will show the movie "Double Indemnity," as the first offering in the library's summer Film Noir series. Light refreshments will be served.

Reach for the Stars

The Hampstead Public Library presents "Reach for the Stars" on Wednesday, June 27. From 2 to 3 p.m., Native American tales about the night sky will be told, and a craft - creating a constellation projector and making a northern lights mural and a glow-in-the-dark comet - will be taught.

Magic Performance

On Thursday, June 28, at 10:30 a.m., the Hampstead Public Library takes the Summer Reading Program to Hampstead Central School with a performance by magician Norman Ng. The Hampstead Recreation Department helped with

continued on page 16

Happenings

continued from page 15

sponsorship of this event.

Book, Video Sale

A Used Book, Record and Video Sale will be held rain or shine Monday, June 25, through Friday, June 29, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at East Hampstead Union Church, 225 East Main St. (Route 121A), just south of Route 111. Paperback books, children's books and music cassettes are 50 cents each or 12 for \$5; hardcover books, VHS tapes, records and books on cassette are \$1 each or six for \$5; and DVDs are \$1 each. The church is an interdenominational Christian fellowship serving the community since 1897, and proceeds benefit the Operating Fund. For more information, call 378-0683.

Flag Retirement

Hampstead holds its annual ceremony for the Retirement of Unserviceable Flags on Thursday, June 14, at 6 p.m. at the Hampstead Fire Department on Little's Lane, off Emerson Road. Anyone who would like to dispose of worn, torn or tattered flags may bring them to the ceremony or drop them off ahead of time at the fire hall or the Town Offices. In the event of heavy rain that evening, the event will be rescheduled to June 21. For further information, contact Howie Steadman, chairman of the Patriotic Purposes Committee, at 329-4288.

Spaghetti Supper

A Spaghetti Supper will be held Saturday, June 23, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at East Hampstead Union Church, 225 East Main St. (Route 121A), just south of Route 111. The menu will be spaghetti, Italian meatballs and sauce, salad, rolls, assorted desserts, and beverages. Cost is \$6 for adults, \$3 for children under 12, free for preschoolers. The church is chair-lift accessible. Take-out meals are available. Proceeds benefit the Operating Fund of this historic church. For more information, call 378-0683.

Blood Drive

The Knights of Colum-

bus Council 9058 of Hampstead sponsors a Red Cross blood drive on Friday, June 15, from 1 to 6 p.m. at St Anne's Church, Emerson Avenue. For more information, contact Pat Bracken at 329-4356.

Clothing Donations

Big Brother Big Sister Foundation is in need of lightly used clothing and small household items. The group will collect donations door to door in Hampstead on Thursday, June 14. To schedule a pick-up, call 1-800-483-5503 or email: donate@bbbsfoundation.org. All donations benefit Big Brother Big Sister mentoring programs in the community, and are tax deductible. For more information, visit www.bbbsfoundation.org.

Democrats

The Hampstead Democrats meet from 6 to 8 p.m. June 25 at the Hampstead Library. Guest speaker will be Democratic Gubernatorial candidate Jackie Cilley of Barrington, who previously served one term as a State Representative and two terms as a State Senator.

Fall Soccer

The Hampstead Civic Club fall soccer registration can be completed online at www.hampsteadcivicclub.com by clicking on Fall Soccer to be redirected to the registration website. Registration deadline is midnight Saturday, June 30. The program is open to Hampstead residents between the ages of 4 and 17 as of Sept. 30, 2012. Cost is \$40 for U6 and U8, \$50 for U10 and up, with a \$10 discount for three or more children. For questions, email: Hampstead-CivicSoccer@comcast.net.

Golf Tourney

The Hampstead Civic Club Golf Tournament takes place Friday, Aug. 10, at Windham Country Club, with registration from 6 to 7 a.m., and a 7:30 a.m. shotgun start, with scramble format. The entry fee of \$125 per player includes greens fees, cart, and post-golf dinner. Visit www.Hampstead-CivicClub.com for registration. Call Ken Fure at 339-1116 with questions.

Island Pond Baptist

Island Pond Baptist Church, 26 North Salem Road, holds Vacation Bible School (VBS), "Gold Rush: Discovering the Rock of Ages!" from June 25-29 from 9 a.m. to noon. Games, crafts, snacks, lessons, and music are featured. All kids ages 4 through sixth grade are welcome to this free program. To register, visit www.islandpondbc.org and click on Vacation Bible School, or call the church office at 329-5959. VBS Family Fun Night is Thursday, June 28, from 6 to 8 p.m., featuring snacks and inflatables.

Cut-A-Thon

On June 18, the Hampstead PTSA (Parent Teacher Student Association) will host a Beautiful Lengths Cut-A-Thon at Hampstead Central School. Sign-ups are recommended. Requirements are: hair must be at least 8 inches in length; free of permanent color, bleach or other chemical treatments such as Japanese straightening; and no more than 5 percent gray. Visit www.pantene.com/BeautifulLengths for details. For all of those interested in this event, including hairdressers who are interested in volunteering, contact Michelle Packowski at 819-3859 or spackowski@comcast.net.

Adult Storytime

The Hampstead Public Library offers Adult Storytime on Friday, June 15, at 10 a.m., with a book and a craft. The program is designed for developmentally disabled patrons, but all adults are welcome. No sessions will be held in July and August.

Needlework Social

Hampstead Public Library hosts a Needlework Social on Friday, June 22, from 1 to 3 p.m. No sign-up is necessary. Bring a current project and share your interest with others in a relaxed setting.

Allergies and Asthma

"Allergies and Asthma: Conditions, Causes and Natural Treatments" will be presented by Dr. Matt Swiesz of Swiesz Family Chiropractic



APPRECIATION BREAKFAST

Hampstead District schools and the Parent Teacher Student Association joined forces to put on a breakfast last week to express their appreciation for what the members of the Town's Police and Fire and Rescue personnel do. Students from both Central and Middle schools decorated place mats and made thank-you cards for the police and fire and rescue workers, and the event was hosted by the Middle School Student Council. Jess Blaine played the piano, and the Middle School Chorus under the direction of Claudette Macomber sang, with Danielle Kuhl playing a piano composition she had composed. Central School Assistant Principal Jennifer Scarpatti showed a three-minute video of the first graders thanking the Police and Fire Departments, and presented gifts.

Photo by Penny Williams

at the Hampstead Public Library on Thursday, June 14, at 6:45 p.m.

Adult Summer Reading

The Hampstead Public Library will offer a summer reading program for adults starting June 25, with the theme of "Between the Covers." The library will also have a Film Noir movie festival, featuring classics from the genre. By checking out materials or coming to the library for events, adults will be eligible to win prizes that include books and gift cards. No registration or tracking of reading time is necessary to participate.

Babysitter Training

The Hampstead Public Library is hosting a Babysitter's Training course on Tuesday, June 26, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pre-registration is required at 329-6411 or pfalconer@hampstead.lib.nh.us. The American Red Cross Babysitter Training combines video, activities, hands-on skills training and discussion, and teaches youth how to respond to emergencies and illnesses with first aid and rescue breathing, make decisions under pressure, communicate with parents to learn household rules, recog-

nize safety and hygiene issues, manage young children, and feed, diaper and care for infants. Cost is \$40. Closing date for registration is June 18.

Spring Tea

Island Pond Baptist Church, 26 North Salem Road will host a free Ladies' Spring Tea on Saturday, June 16, from noon to 2:30 p.m., with singing, prayer, games, fellowship and a drawing. A lunch and desserts will be served. Call the church office at 329-5959 if interested in attending. For more information, visit www.islandpondbc.org.

Book Groups

On Monday, June 18, at 7 p.m., the Non-Fiction Book Group at the Hampstead Public Library will discuss "Paul Revere's Ride" by David Hackett Fischer. On June 21 at 1 p.m., the Third Thursday Book Group will discuss "The Paris Wife: a novel" by Paula McLean. Copies of the books are available at the library's front desk. Newcomers are always welcome.

Summerfest Crafters

Crafters and artists are sought for the St. Anne Summerfest, to be held Sat-

urday, July 28, on the Hampstead Town Green. Booths will be open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Other activities planned for the day include a road race, vintage car show, games for all ages, food and bake sales, bounce tent, obstacle course, live entertainment, silent auction, and raffles. Spaces are 10- by- 10-feet (no chairs or tables provided) and cost \$40 for an uncovered space and \$50 for a covered space. More information and an application are at www.saintannechurchnh.org (click on "Summerfest" at the top, then "Craft and Art Booths"), or contact Claire Manes at 642-3250 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Red Sox Tickets

Hampstead's Baseball and Softball Association is selling raffle tickets at one for \$10 or three for \$20 for four tickets to the Red Sox vs. Yankees game July 8 in section 165 row MM. The winner will be picked at the end of the association's season. Contact Mike Fairbank at mpmbfairbank@msn.com or 617-462-6827 for tickets. All proceeds from the raffle will go to the improvements at the fields and a new scoreboard at Holiday Lane.

Happenings

continued from page 16

Compost Bins

The Hampstead Recycling and Solid Waste Committee has again obtained compost bins for residents. The compost bins are available at the Town Office at a cost of \$47. For more information, contact Tina Harrington at 329-4100, ext. zero.

SANDOWN

Book Discussion

At 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 19, at the Sandown Public Library, the Books & Bites book group will discuss "Interred with Their Bones" by Jennifer Lee Carrell. Copies of the book are available at the library.

Father's Day Card

At 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 14, at the Sandown

Public Library, children ages 9 and up are invited to create a handmade Father's Day card using basic origami techniques. Registration for this class is required; call 887-3428 to register.

Rockin' Readers Book Club

Fourth and fifth grade students are invited to join the Rockin' Readers Book Club on Wednesday, June 20, at 3:30 p.m. at the Sandown Public Library. The

group will discuss "Hoot" by Carl Hiaasen. A snack follows the discussion.

Preschool Story Hours

Preschool story hour sessions continue Tuesdays throughout June at the Sandown Public Library. An hour of stories, music, poetry, and crafts with Miss Jenn is offered. Two sessions are held each week, at 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Lions Yard Sale

The Sandown Lions Club is accepting donations for its 18th annual Yard Sale/Flea Market, set for June 30, rain or shine, from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Sandown Town Hall. A portion of the proceeds will be used for a scholarship to be awarded to a graduating senior from Sandown and/or Danville for the 2012-2013 school year. To make donations,

call project chairman Kathi Soule at 974-0547. Pickup can be arranged. No computers, peripherals, TVs or clothing can be accepted.

Chess Club

The Sandown Public Library Chess Club with chess master Monty Cole meets Thursday, June 21, at 6:30 p.m. All ages are welcome to play. No experience is needed.

continued on page 19

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Happenings

continued from page 17

Sandown GOP

The Sandown Republican Committee will host Rockingham County Sheriff Mike Downing on Wednesday, June 20, at 7 p.m. at Sandown Town Hall, 320 Main St. (Route 121A). Downing will provide an update on public safety and law enforcement services for the citizens and businesses in the county. The event is free and all are encouraged to attend. Visit www.srcnhgop.com for more information or email: contactus@srcnhgop.com.

Garden Pot Recycling

The Sandown Garden Club will hold a Pot Recycling Day on Saturday, June 23, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Depot off Main Street. Anyone with used flower pots is invited to drop them off. The pots will be cleaned and stored for next year's Garden Club Plant Sale. The Club is currently making plans for the upcoming Sandown Old Home Days in August. New members are always welcome. Meetings are the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Recreation Center on Pheasant Run Drive. For more information, call Sue at 887-6784, or visit www.sandown-gardenclub.org.

Star Gazing

On Monday, June 18, at 8 p.m., the Sandown Public Library and the New Hampshire Astronomical Society will host a Star Gazing event at the Sandown Central School field behind the library. Several telescopes will be available to view the night sky. All ages are welcome.

Zumba

Zumba for high school students is offered by Sandown Recreation. The 10-week summer period (two five-week sessions) begins Tuesday, June 19, from 5 to 6 p.m. at the Ed Garvey Recreation Facility, 25 Pheasant Run Drive. Save money and sign up for the entire 10 weeks or purchase a prepaid punch card. Registration is open to students who will be entering Grades 9-12 in September.

Cost for the 10-week session is \$76 for residents and \$86 for non-residents. A five-week session is \$38. Prepaid punch cards may be used anytime during the 10 weeks of classes and cost \$9 per class for residents and \$10 for non-residents.

REGIONAL

Clothing Giveaway

A gently-used free clothing giveaway takes place at Renew on Saturday, June 16, from 8 to 11:30 a.m. This is a ministry of Calvary Bible Church at 145 Hampstead Road, Derry. All clothes are clean and organized. Enter at the Calvary Bible Church marquee sign; Renew will be at right. This is open to all area families in need or on a budget, and Derry residence is not required. Donations of clean, gently-used apparel and accessories from non-smoking homes are accepted at the door. Contact by searching for "Renew Derry" on Facebook, emailing renewclothing@yahoo.com, or calling the church secretary at 434-1516. No donations of money are accepted. Families are limited to 20 of the newest items plus an unlimited number of any other items per visit, within reason for household size. A short sign-up is required.

Running Camp

Greater Derry Running Camp for boys and girls in fifth grade and older will be held July 23-27 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Pinkerton Academy Track. Cost is \$80 per child, \$95 for late sign-up after July 9. For questions, contact Amy Bernard at: paruncamp@yahoo.com or 548-7470.

Relay for Life

The Relay for Life of Greater Derry and Londonderry begins Friday, June 22, at 6 p.m. and continues until Saturday, June 23, at 10 a.m. at the Pinkerton Academy Track in Derry. The towns of Derry, Londonderry, Hampstead, Chester, Sandown, Plaistow, Atkinson, Danville and Windham have both residents and businesses involved in the Relay. The event celebrates the lives of people who have battled cancer,

remembers loved ones who lost their cancer battles, and fights back against the disease. For information on how to join a team or start one, to sponsor, volunteer, or walk as a survivor or participate in any capacity, contact Brigit Ryan-Souza at 471-4113 or derry_relay@cancer.org or visit www.relayforlife.org/derryand-londonderry-nh. The next Team Captains' meeting is May 8 at 6:45 p.m. at the Derry Public Library on East Broadway.

Red Sox Raffle

A drawing will be held June 28 for a raffle of two front row seats at the Red Sox vs. Yankees game, including passes to the Royal Rooters Club, on July 6 at 7:10 p.m. The seats are front row at visitor dugout (Sec 26, Box 65), and are donated by the Saren family. Second prize is four front row seats to the Fisher Cats vs. Seadogs game Friday, July 6, at 7:05 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for one, \$50 for six. Make checks payable to: Etz Hayim Synagogue, 1-1/2 Hood Road, Derry, NH 03038. Raffle tickets will be mailed. For more information, contact Laurie at medrek9352@aol.com or call 432-9352. Proceeds benefit the synagogue.

Hyla Brook Poets

The Hyla Brook Poets' monthly writing workshop meets the third Saturday of the month at 10 a.m. at the Frost Farm, 122 Rockingham Road (Route 28), Derry. For questions, contact Robert Crawford at bobik9@aol.com or visit www.facebook.com/HylaBrookPoets.

Granite State Tennis

Registration is open for the summer season of Granite State Kids Community Tennis Association, a USTA travel team program for ages 5 through 18. Head Pro is Steve Getchell of Saddlebrook Tennis Academy in Florida. Travel teams compete for the opportunity to represent New Hampshire at the Sectional Tournament in late August. Age 10 and Under Tennis format is used for ages 10 and under and uses modified courts and balls. The cost is \$165 per player (\$145 per player with existing USTA membership) or \$350 per family, and includes weekly-coached play, match play, team T-shirt, and season-ending Tennis Carnival or state



ATHLETES HONORED The Hampstead Middle School Athletic Club honored the following student athletes with special recognition from their coaches for their achievements both on and off the field. Back row: John Polichetti (Coaches Award for Baseball), Ben Curry (Spirit of the Hawk for baseball), Mike Bournival (Baseball: Puts the Team First), Sam Lanternier (Coaches Award Track & Field) and Sean Kelley (Newcomers Award Track & Field); middle row: Kristin Crowell (Spirit Award Track & Field), Victoria Williams (Never Gives Up Track & Field), Hannah Rogers (Coaches Award Track & Field), Camy Preble (Leadership Softball) and Ty Letoile (Most Improved Golfer); and front row: Amanda Lindquist (Rookie of the Year Softball), Lauren Thibodeau (Most Valuable Golfer) and Cam Appleyard (Coaches Award Golf). Not pictured are Alyssa Cicale (Most Improved Player Softball) and Matt Wolfe (Most Improved Player Track & Field).
Courtesy photo

tournament for teams that qualify. Registration forms are available at www.granites-tatekids.com. For more information, contact Diane Phelps at 714-4986 or dphelps87@comcast.net.

Summer Fun Runs

The Greater Derry Track Club's summer fun runs, offered in conjunction with the Derry Parks & Recreation Department, are being moved to Londonderry High School on Tuesday evenings. The runs were previously at Pinkerton Academy. The fun runs go from June 26 through Aug. 7, with registration at 6 p.m. and races beginning at 6:30 p.m. Track club members lead stretching exercises and offer running tips. The races are for ages 2 and up, and children will receive participation ribbons each week. In lieu of a registration fee, participants are asked to donate a non-perishable food item every week. For more information, call the Derry Parks & Recreation Department at (432-6136, Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Field Hockey Camp

The 22nd annual Astros' Shoot for the Stars Field

Hockey Camp will be held at Rider Field in Derry July 9-13 and July 16-20 from 8 a.m. to noon daily. Campers from beginners to high school varsity may attend one or both weeks. Camp director Denise Rioux and her staff will focus on fundamentals, positional play, small games, scrimmage play, and set plays. The staff will include Carol Merchant, four-time state championship-winning coach at Salem High School and former Pinkerton assistant; All-American Jordyn Hamilton (Boston College); Nicole Pacheco (UMass Lowell); Brittany Gentile (Quinnipiac), and other college players. National official Jeanne O'Brien will conduct a session on rules

and sportsmanship. Cost is \$100 for one week and \$175 for two weeks. Forms may be obtained by e-mailing Denrioux@aol.com or by texting/calling 785-4740.

Show Chorus

Rhythm of New Hampshire Show Chorus (RNH) is seeking female singers to try their talents with the American art form of a cappella barbershop singing. Learn four-part harmony in a fun atmosphere. Visit a Thursday evening rehearsal from 6:45 to 9:15 p.m. at the Marion Gerrish Community Center, 35 West Broadway, Derry. Learn more by calling 800-696-7351 or visiting www.RNHChorus.org.

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For more information or to register, please contact:

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